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It is only necessary to read the declaration of principles issued by candidates for office. It is safe to say that seventy-five per cent., when reduced to lowest terms, mean absolutely nothing. The possibility of juggling with terms stands in inverse ratio to the level of political education of the people. The ability to distinguish the important from the unimportant in politics, to separate the practicable from the utopian, has scarcely been developed in France. The tendency to remain content with pure generalities is characteristic of political infancy. The reaction of this state of public opinion upon the constitution and activity of political parties is admirably described by the author. The difficulty of grouping political sentiment about great practical questions of policy leads to the splitting up of parties into a great number of groups, each with its particular catchword.

In the discussion of political parties, the author gives us an extremely suggestive analysis of the differences in interests represented in different countries. The distinction between the horizontal and vertical division of political society explains many of the most complex phenomena of political life. Where the line of division of political parties corresponds to the dividing line of social classes, the conditions for the success of popular government are lacking. On the other hand, where political development has led to the fusion of classes and even the disappearance of strictly class lines in the formation of political parties, the conditions requisite for that form of association and co-operation between classes indispensable to popular government are assured. Within the limits of a review, it is only possible to touch upon one or two of the many interesting questions discussed by the author. A work of this importance, which for the first time gives us an inside view of political activity in Europe, deserves to be carefully read by every one interested in political progress.

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**JUVENILE OFFENDERS.** By W. D. Morrison. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1897.

It is very desirable that greater interest should be taken by the community in general in the large and varied class of children dealt with in this book. It appears most opportunely, for the Commission on Reformatories and Industrial Schools has issued its report, and the subject may now be thoroughly studied by whoso will

take the trouble. Mr. Morrison's experience enables him to speak with authority, and to make many practical suggestions towards a wiser and more humane treatment of the juvenile offender.

The book is divided into two parts,—the first dealing with the conditions of juvenile crime, the second with the treatment of it. The effect of sex and age upon juvenile crime, the physical and mental condition of young offenders, their parentage and economic surroundings, are all carefully and thoroughly examined and considered, with the result that the question resolves itself into one of the best means of educating children to become useful members of the community.

As might be expected of one having so much practical experience, Mr. Morrison is not a very ardent believer in institutions and the State. "The discipline of a somewhat inferior home," he writes, "is always better than the discipline of an institution, and the efforts of parental solicitude are much more likely to be effectual in the ultimate reclamation of a wayward child than any kind of State machinery." Nevertheless, the cases are numerous in which corrective influences cannot be brought to bear upon the child except in an institution, and much careful consideration is needed to make these efficient. The first step required, Mr. Morrison thinks, is their better classification, which will enable a juvenile to be sent to the right sort of institution. At present the difference between different kinds of schools is so badly defined that criminal children mingle freely with those who are merely neglected, and mere babies are subjected to the same routine and discipline as youths with an advanced knowledge of the shady side of life. "In reformatory schools, children under ten years of age are associated with youths of eighteen and twenty. In industrial schools infants under six are sometimes mixed up with boys of fifteen and sixteen."

But in addition to the need for better classification of the schools, Mr. Morrison urges strongly the necessity for more individual consideration of each case. The character, disposition, and circumstances (including the past history) of every child must be taken into account if our treatment of it is to have any success. Under our present system they drift into the various reformatories and industrial schools very much at haphazard ; it is the disposition of the magistrate who happens to be on the bench, not that of the child, which determines what course of treatment it shall go through.

The same principle of individualization must be applied after the

child enters upon his institutional life, and for this reason the system of large schools is condemned. The schools must be small enough to admit of really personal relations between the authorities and the children under their charge.

One important point comes out clearly, both in Mr. Morrison's book and in the Blue Book referred to before,—*i.e.*, that the care of the children should not cease as soon as they leave the walls of the institution. A more complete system of "after-care" would go far to prevent the recurrence of crime which is so sad a feature among juvenile offenders. This is a work which could and should be done largely by voluntary agencies, which would undertake that every child should have at least one friend to look to for support when he begins the hard battle of life on his own account.

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BRITISH MORALISTS : Being Selections from Writers principally of the Eighteenth Century. Edited, with an Introduction and Analytical Index, by L. A. Selby-Bigge, M.A., formerly Fellow and Lecturer of University College, Oxford. In two volumes. Oxford : At the Clarendon Press, 1897. Pp. lxx., 425, 451.

The selections here given are on a somewhat extensive scale. The principal ethical writings of Shaftesbury, Hutcheson, Butler, S. Clarke, Price, and Adam Smith are represented with great fulness. Considerable extracts are given also from Bentham, Balguy, John Brown, John Clarke, John Gay, Kames, and Wollaston ; and shorter passages from Hobbes, Cudworth, Locke, Mandeville, and Paley. There is also an introductory Essay of nearly sixty pages, a Bibliographical Note, and an extensive Index of terms used by the leading writers.

"A book of selections," says the editor, "is never quite satisfactory. Even if it is wanted, its execution may easily be found fault with. When all is irrevocably in print, one feels how much better it might have been done,—how niggardly one has been to one author, how stupidly indulgent to another, how badly proportioned is the whole, and how awkwardly arranged." A candid reviewer must, I fear, admit that he partly recognizes the justice of these self-accusations. The task undertaken is a difficult one, and it can hardly be said that it is quite successfully executed. The selections are not so arranged as to bring out clearly either the